

Record

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Task force to examine SBC structure

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP and local reports) — With the goal of finding ways Southern Baptists "can work more faithfully and effectively" together in fulfilling the Great Commission, messengers to the convention's annual meeting June 23-24 in Louisville, Ky., gave the green light to a task force to examine the denomination for one year and report back to the 2010 meeting in Orlando Fl.

Debate over the proposed Great Commission Task Force and an Internet document dubbed the Great Commission Resurgence Declaration had dominated pre-convention talk, with some Southern Baptist leaders backing it and others expressing concern. In the end, though, the 8,700-plus messengers at the annual meeting overwhelmingly supported the task force via a motion that gave Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) President Johnny Hunt authority to appoint the panel — something he did on the meeting's final day, naming 19 members.

Top stories

In other top annual meeting news, messengers:

- received an update about the GPS (God's Plan for Sharing) evangelism initiative the North American Mission Board (NAMB), which aims to see every SBC church planting other churches by 2020.

IN SESSION — More than 8,700 messengers attended the 152nd session of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting June 23-24 at the Kentucky Exhibition Center in Louisville, Ky. Messengers approved a plan for a sweeping evaluation of the SBC's effectiveness in fulfilling the Great Commission. (BP photo)

- passed a resolution that calls the election of President Obama a step toward nationwide racial reconciliation, but that also heavily criticizes him for some of his policies.

- passed a resolution encouraging Southern Baptist families to prayerfully consider adopting or fostering children.

- approved an SBC Executive Committee recommendation to cease the "cooperative relationship" with Broadway Church in Fort Worth, Texas, over the issue of homosexuality.

- re-elected Johnny Hunt, pastor of First Church in Woodstock, Ga., to a second one-year term as SBC president.

Great Commission Task Force

The Great Commission Task Force was the leading issue, not only in the minds of messengers but also for several of the meeting's preachers. Evangelist Billy Graham, 90 years old, even sent a personal greeting to messengers in which he said he had read about the "call to a Great Commission resurgence" with much interest.

The task force had the backing of Hunt, who is one of the 19 members and who named Ronnie Floyd as chairman. Floyd, pastor of First Church in Springdale, Ar., has served in a number of capacities at the SBC level, including chair of the SBC Executive Committee. He was defeated by North Carolina pastor Frank Page in a 2006 run for SBC president.

"I feel like the Southern Baptist Convention is in what we call a defining moment," Hunt said at a press conference following his re-election. "We are defining our priorities and ... we're saying to our 43,000 churches: The Great Commission needs a resurgence. We need to fund our missionaries. We need to have more money for church planting. We need to be more intentional with the GPS."

Hunt said he has "no desire whatsoever to touch the structure" of the convention. He also said he hopes to see — through the study and the possible implementation of a proposed report — Cooperative Program giving increase and what he called "overlap" within the denomination lessen.

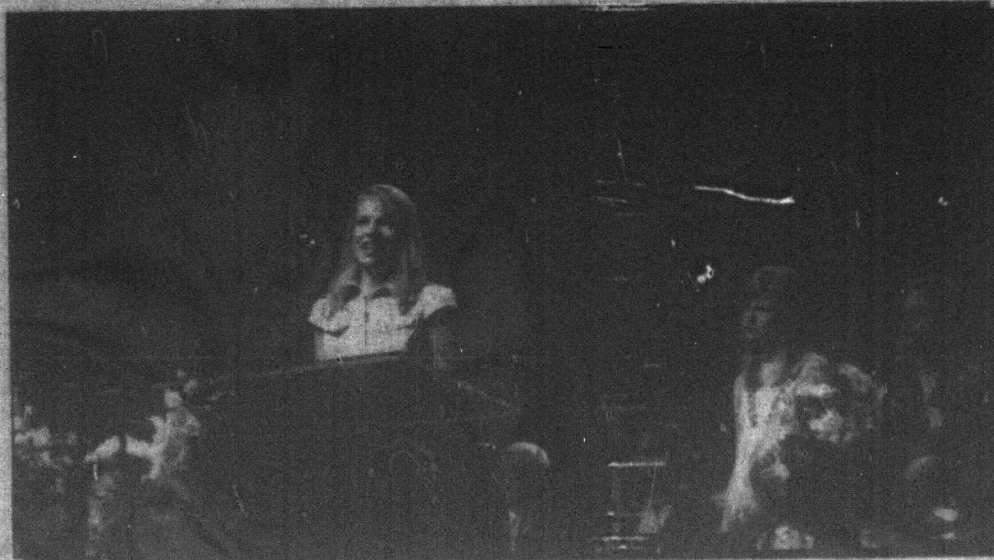
When Hunt was elected SBC president in 2008, his church gave 2.2% of undesignated receipts through the Cooperative Program, while the SBC church average is over five percent.

"Sometimes, the overlap has proved to be very healthy," he said. "but other times, the overlap is maybe taking some dollars [away] that could be placed somewhere else to cause us to go further in piercing the darkness with the Good News."

R. Albert Mohler Jr., president of Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., made the task force motion from the floor while speaking as a messenger from Highview Church in Louisville, Ky. Frank Page, pastor of First Church in Taylors, S.C., spoke for and supported the motion.

"This is not an effort to reinvent the Southern Baptist Convention," Mohler

See SBC, page 2



POSTHUMOUS AWARD — Cindy Winters (at podium), widow of slain Southern Baptist pastor Fred Winters, accepts the inaugural Holman Christian Study Bible Award posthumously for her husband, who was gunned down in March while preaching at First Church in Maryville, Ill. The Winters' two daughters Alyssia (second from left), 13, and Cassidy (second from right), 11, watched as the award was presented by LifeWay Christian Resources President Thom Rainer at the 2009 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Louisville, Ky. (BP photo).



EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

...will return
next week.

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SBC

said, adding, "There is a generation
ready and waiting to be challenged to
do something great for the cause of
Christ. I say we take this opportunity."

In addition to Hunt and Floyd, the
task force includes: Frank Page, Al
Mohler; Jim Richards, executive
director, Southern Baptists of Texas
Convention; David Dockery, presi-
dent, Union University, Jackson, Tn.;
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Executive Committee member);
Robert White, executive director,
Georgia Baptist Convention; Ken
Whitten, pastor, Idlewild Church,
Tampa, Fl.; Ted Traylor, Olive Church,
Pensacola, Fl.

No Mississippi Baptists were named
to the task force.

Resolutions

The Obama resolution, which passed
nearly unanimously, says messengers
"share our nation's pride in our continuing
progress toward racial reconciliation
signaled" by the president's election —
but the resolution also says messengers
"decry" Obama's assistance to pro-abor-
tion groups.

The resolution also expresses "strong
opposition" to Obama declaring June as
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride
Month. The resolution also calls on
Southern Baptists to pray for Obama,
something they did immediately after its
passage with Hunt leading the prayer.

The pro-adoption resolution notes
that the world has upwards of 150 mil-
lion orphans and it calls "on each
Southern Baptist family to pray for guid-
ance as to whether God is calling them to
adopt or foster a child or children." It
also encourages "pastors and church
leaders to preach and teach on God's
concern for orphans."

Church removed

Southern Baptists ceased their rela-
tionship with Broadway Church in Ft.
Worth following a year-long study by
the SBC Executive Committee that began
with a motion from the floor at last
year's meeting. The congregation has at
least two same-sex couples in the church
and was embroiled in a controversy in
early 2008 as to whether the couples
should be pictured in a church directory.

Supporters of the Executive
Committee recommendation said that
while the convention fully supports min-
istering to the homosexual community,
the church by its actions was in violation
of Article III of the SBC Constitution,
which states that churches "which act to
affirm, approve, or endorse homosexual
behavior" are not in friendly cooperation.

Some of the church's openly homosex-
ual members serve on church commit-
tees. Executive Committee members had



KIDS ONLY — Southern Baptist Convention Children's Conference participants watch dramatic stage presentations based on this year's theme, Pirates of the Cranium. The children enjoyed dynamic Scripture memory exercises, played games, and sang songs. The program was held at the Kentucky Exhibition Center in Louisville, Ky., during the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting. (BP photo)

suggested a statement from the church
condemning homosexuality would have
been beneficial. The church, though,
decided not to go that route.

Other news

In other convention news:

• Geoff Hammond, president of the
North American Mission Board in
Alpharetta, Ga., told messengers the SBC's
associations and 42 state conventions
"have signed up" for the GPS challenge
and "joined hands" together with the goal
of seeing every SBC church, by 2020,
planting other churches.

Messengers were given a paperback
book by Hammond titled, God's Plan for
Sharing: North America: Your Mission
Field. "We are about to embark on the
largest, most extended, farthest-reaching
national evangelism initiative that we
have ever seen," Hammond said.

• Thanks to a gift from the Southern
Baptists of Texas Convention and an offer-
ing from the SBC Pastors' Conference, the
International Mission Board (IMB) received
more than \$100,000 to help fill the gap
from its Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
shortfall. The Lottie Moon offering fell \$29
million short of its goal and nine million
dollars short of its previous year's total.

During the IMB report, messengers heard
from missionaries who serve in closed areas
of the world; their identities were masked to
protect their safety. IMB President Jerry
Rankin, a native Mississippian and graduate
of Baptist-affiliated Mississippi College (MC)
in Clinton, said more needs to be done to
reach a lost world.

"Are we saying that 5,000 missionaries
are enough... to evangelize the rest of the
world while we support over 100,000 pas-
tors, church staff and denominational
workers in our own country?" he asked.

• SBC Executive Committee President
Morris H. Chapman, also a Mississippi
native and MC graduate, told messengers
that a fervor for missions trumps doctrinal
divides and that Southern Baptists will
unite for the sake of lost souls.

"The victories of faith in the life of the
convention did not happen because men
and women loved doctrine," Chapman,
president of the Executive Committee, said
during the morning report June 23. "They
happened because they loved Jesus."

Chapman mentioned some of the issues
that have been debated in recent days, not-
ing first that the convention must "main-
tain a careful balance between cultural
adaptation and Gospel proclamation."

"Some of the church growth method-
ologies that masquerade under the guise
of Bible exposition are increasingly known
for the crude themes and the vulgar lan-
guage of their strongest advocates. The
sacred desk is no place for the carnal, the
sensual and the sensational," he said.

• The annual Crossover evangelism
outreach that precedes the annual meeting
yielded more than 1,000 decisions for
Christ. Approximately 3,000 volunteers
from 107 churches participated.

• John Mark Toby, pastor of Beacon Hill
Church in Somerset, Ky., was elected first
vice president, while Stephen Rummage,
pastor of Bell Shoals Church in Brandon,
Fl., was elected second vice president.

John Yeats, director of communications
for the Louisiana Baptist Convention, was
re-elected SBC recording secretary, and
Jim Wells, director of missions for the Tri-
County Association in Nixa, Mo., was re-
elected registration secretary.

Mac Brunson, pastor of First Church in
Jacksonville, Fl., was elected to preach the
2010 convention sermon in Orlando.

• LifeWay Christian Resources present-
ed the inaugural Holman Christian
Standard Bible Award posthumously to
Fred Winters, the pastor of First Church in
Maryville, Il., who was shot and killed
while preaching. Winters' widow Cindy
appeared on stage and received the award.
Their two daughters also were present.

The award will honor individuals who
have shown a high commitment to the
preaching or teaching of the God's Word.

Next year's annual meeting will take
place June 15-16 in Orlando, Fl.

Pastors gather in Louisville for annual meet

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Southern Baptist churches must be known as passionate for God's glory, loving toward others, and winsome in their discipleship if they are to make the impact on society that God desires, pastors were told during the opening session of the Southern Baptist Convention Pastors' Conference on June 21 at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville.

A passion for God's glory, and not mere external religion, must drive and animate the local churches of the Southern Baptist Convention, said J.D. Greear, lead pastor of The Summit Church in Durham, N.C.

Preaching from Matthew 23, where Jesus uses seven "woes" to upbraid the Pharisees for their adherence to legalistic false religion, Greear pointed out that some Southern Baptists have focused on superficial outward piety to the exclusion of a substantive faith that goes hard after a relationship with God.

Mac Brunson, pastor of First Church in Jacksonville, Fla., said even though the Southern Baptist Convention has the best preaching, the best churches and the best unified giving plan in America, the reason membership numbers aren't growing could be that people in a watching world don't like what they see.

"Do you not think Satan knows the best thing he can do is get you angry at something, and if he gets you angry at something, he'll get you off your rhythm and he'll get you off of your game," Brunson said. "I'm afraid that's where we are."

A country in crisis needs Christians who can explain their faith winsomely and have the courage to live it out, Chuck Colson, founder of the Prison Fellowship ministry in Lansdowne, Va., told the pastors.

Like a platoon leader charged with preparing his soldiers for combat, a pastor has a great responsibility to equip and prepare his people to take their faith into the world and make disciples for Jesus Christ, Colson said.

On the second day of the Pastors' Conference, speakers exhorted pastors to lead with "One Love," "One Spirit" and "One Purpose."

Passionate, funny, pleading — speakers Mike Landry, Ed Stetzer, Francis Chan, Tom Elliff, Michael Catt, Fred Luter, Dennis Swanberg, Alvin Reid, David Platt, Johnny Hunt, and Mike Huckabee — referred to the Great Commission, tertiary issues, humility, and accountability.

New Pastor's Conference officers include Kevin Ezell, pastor of Highview Church in Louisville, Ky., president; Jimmy Scroggins, pastor of First Church, West Palm Beach, Fla., vice president; and Ben Mandrell, pastor of Englewood Church, Jackson, Tenn., secretary-treasurer.



FORGIVENESS — Tom Elliff (addressing audience), a former Southern Baptist Convention president, pastor, and International Mission Board vice president, shares a story of forgiveness in the relationship between him and his 90-year-old father, J.T. Elliff, (standing behind him), a pastor who left his wife for another woman. Elliff spoke during the June 22 morning session of the SBC Pastors' Conference at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, Ky.

Mike Landry, pastor of Sarasota (Fl.) Church, pointed to the Book of Jonah for a lesson on maintaining the same love of Christ the Apostle Paul mentioned in Philippians 2:2. A lack of love, Landry said, turns a Christian into a judge as displayed in Jonah, judging the people of Nineveh and desiring punishment for them more than reconciliation.

A lack of love also makes a Christian arrogant and proud. "Is your agenda more important than God's agenda?" he asked.

Preaching from Ephesians 4:1-6, Ed Stetzer, director of LifeWay Research, urged Southern Baptists to share a love-driven unity.

"God has already made us one... We just have to live it out," Stetzer said. The decline in membership and baptisms in the SBC is "not a matter of debate; it's a matter of math," he said, calling Southern Baptists to set aside "tertiary" issues to join hands in ministry.

Francis Chan, teaching pastor at Cornerstone Church in Simi Valley, Ca., said radical love for one another was a defining characteristic of the early church, and should be for Christians today.

"Here's what's supposed to happen when someone walks into a gathering of believers: An unbeliever who has never seen God should walk into a group of us as believers and see so much love amongst us that they actually see God there," Chan said.

Tom Elliff, a former pastor, SBC president, and vice president of the International Mission Board, shared the power of forgiveness from the vantage point of personal experience. He told how he forgave his father, J.T.

Elliff, a pastor who left his wife for another woman. Elliff called pastors to forgive those who have betrayed and wounded them in order for Christ to be exalted and their ministries to be more effective.

"An unforgiving spirit is like an acid that eats the container from the inside out," Elliff said. "For you or for me to be unforgiving is the same as drinking poison and hoping the other person dies; we become the victim."

Mississippi native Michael Catt, widely known for his church's work with Sherwood Pictures, which produced the movies Facing the Giants and Fireproof, shared his concern over the lack of respect between the older and younger generations of believers in the SBC.

The senior pastor of Sherwood Church in Albany, Ga., said the SBC stands at a seminal moment in its history. "You and I need to care about the lost; listen more than we speak; pray more than we talk; groan more than we gossip; plead before God instead of pointing fingers; set an exam-

ple for the next generation; stop burning bridges and start building them," Catt said.

Drawing from Acts 1:4-8, Fred Luter, pastor of Franklin Avenue Church in New Orleans, said early Christians "turned the world upside down" because they were empowered by the Holy Spirit.

"They were plain, ordinary people who did extraordinary things for the Kingdom of God," Luter said passionately. "These plain, ordinary people were empowered by the Spirit of God."

Combining humor with a prescription for healthy relationships, comedian Dennis Swanberg encouraged pastors during the afternoon session.

Alvin Reid, professor of evangelism at Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., said the Southern Baptist Convention is far too comfortable in a world racing toward hell.

Reid said the convention has reached a tipping point from which it cannot go back, but instead, must move forward for the sake of the Gospel.

Looking back

10 years ago

Mississippi native Tommy Lea, dean of the school of theology at Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth, dies after a four-and-a-half year battle with cancer.

20 years ago

An Oklahoma husband and wife, both ordained to the ministry, are turned down for appointment as missionaries by a trustee committee of the Foreign Mission Board. Greg and Katrina Pennington were both ordained by over the objections of Enon Association.

50 years ago

Grenada native and Mississippi College graduate Charles S. "Puddin'" Davis turns down professional football offers from the Los Angeles Rams and other teams to enroll at Southern Seminary.



THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

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1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

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By Charles Marx, 1932-2004
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AKMZ JTZCJD-SVKG:
JXPGJD-CPCZ

Clue: S = F

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Luke Four: Eight

DON'T THROW A FIT

I honestly did not understand why folks always talk about their grandkids and what they said, did, and accomplished. I just did not know, but what I have discovered is that the reason they were talking about and quoting their grandkids is because those young'uns are so much smarter than we are. I thought for a while probably it was things that I used to know but then forgot and then forgot that I forgot. I am beginning to realize that is not the case. The reality is that these kids know and are learning things that I never knew and never heard in the way they are being taught. So occasionally, I have to pass it along to you in case you missed school the same day that I did.

One recent installment to my intellectual pantry came from my grandson while he was attending preschool kindergarten. I said, "Tell me what your teacher taught you today at school." He began to tell me about when his teacher was handing out snacks for them to eat. It was some sort of a snack that had different colors and possibly different sizes. The teacher gave them this wise piece of advice as she was handing out the various snacks: "You get what you get and don't throw a fit!" She said it again and then had them to repeat it. He repeated it, repeated it, and was repeating it to me. "You get what you get and don't throw a fit!"

The teacher explained that sometimes you get a larger or a smaller piece and sometimes you may get a different color than you had wanted, but

"You get what you get and don't throw a fit!" Now for some folks that is somewhat juvenile advice perpetrated on four-year old children, and it is detrimental to their unbridled development and expression of their own personal taste and will. No doubt, there are some people who argue that was the wrong message to give children. They need to be assertive if they get the wrong piece, wrong size, or the wrong color, and it does not suit their fancy. They need to step up to the plate and push for their rights.

Certainly, there is a place for children to learn to stand their ground, to stand up for good things, and to be immovable in their convictions, beliefs, or quality positions. That is fine, and I would want my children to understand that. What the teacher was emphasizing though was the wonderful quality of having a cooperative spirit and not always having your way and your personal whim satisfied. You certainly do not have to act like a self-centered, narcissistic, hotheaded jerk simply because not everything suits your fancy. It just seems to me that while both sides of this issue have some merit, the greater weight and the more effective principle in general is to live life with a sense of cooperation, flexibility, a willingness to



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

accommodate others, and to be yielding in regard to your own personal preferences.

I have watched folks go through life with both fists tightly clinched. To their own detriment, the fuse is lit, and an explosion is imminent, resulting in ruptured relationships. By contrast, I have seen those souls who came to a moment not getting everything in place, as they might want it. They back away far enough to give the other fellow respect and are under control enough not to wreck, ruin, or derail everyone's idea, all for the betterment of the group and the blessing of everyone who is involved.

Now while there are a multiplicity of trails down which I could run pursuing this idea, I felt strangely compelled by what I sense was the Holy Spirit simply to ask the Lord to make application in my own heart and life in many areas. Think about this truth

taught in the kindergarten class as it could be applied to driving down the highway, or getting your order in a restaurant, or listening to the music at church, or working with a committee in your congregation. What if you applied this to hearing your Sunday School teacher teach on a Sunday morning when he or she may not be at his or her best? What if your team does not win or the vote does not go your way? What if the work is not finished on time or the child spills milk? There are easily a hundred more in the list, but you get the picture. Sometimes, "You get what you get and don't throw a fit!"

No doubt some of you may be wondering if there is any biblical basis for this kind of thinking, this kind of acting, this sort of non-reacting. Absolutely! Maybe there is none more complete or overarching than Paul's pointed words about the work of the Spirit of God within the believer. The Holy Spirit produces fruit, and as Paul says, that fruit is "Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (Gal. 5:22-23a). It is a work of God within us.

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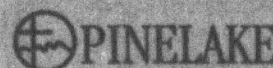
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What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS

Matthew 10:27 NAS

July 9, 2009

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.



Men's Ministry State Leadership Training
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Rob Carr—Royal Ambassador Specialist—NAMB

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601-292-3334
cwright@mbcb.org

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August 16
Clarksdale BC
6 p.m.



August 9
Highland BC, Meridian
6 p.m.

Teacher Appreciation & Prayerwalk
SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2009

ABC

- Conduct a commitment service during the morning worship for school teachers and administrators.
- Pray and commission teachers and administrators as they begin the new school year.
- Request specific prayer needs from school administrators and teachers.
- Meet at the church on Sunday afternoon to prayerwalk and/or prayer drive around the area schools.
- Share the prayerwalk experiences during the evening worship.

If you would like to receive information sheets on Prayerwalking Local Schools for Principals, for Pastors and for Participants, call 601-292-3316. Order Prayerwalking Key Chains from www.prayerclosetministries.org or call Kevin Meador, 601-636-2100.

MPF MISSISSIPPI

PARENTS' FELLOWSHIP

September 18-19, Garaywa

MMF MISSISSIPPI

MISSIONARY FELLOWSHIP

September 19, Garaywa

For info: Mississippi WMU, 601-292-3317

**Professional Certification
for Ministry Assistants and
Ministry Office SkillShops**

August 18-20, 2009

Featuring:
Lana Rose
and Dianne Cockrell

Purpose: *To create awareness of the scope of responsibility and the need to apply professional standards in the ministry of the church and denominational secretary (ministry assistant). To offer in-depth experiential treatment of specific areas of office administration and ministry.*

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

You should register by July 24, 2009.

There will be a \$5 late fee after July 24, 2009.

For more information, call Kay McDonnell at (601) 292-3305
or 1-800-748-1651 (toll-free in state),
or e-mail kmcdonnell@mbcb.org

**HERE'S HOPE Pastor and Wife Workshop
Bivo/Small Church**

Purpose

To provide a time of encouragement, inspiration and fellowship for bivocational/small church pastors and their wives.

August 11 and 15

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MINISTERS'
WIVES
SESSIONS
LEADER

\$20/couple registration fee to be refunded to those who attend.
If you have any questions, or to register, please contact Kay at 601.292.3305
or e-mail kmcdonnell@mbcb.org.

2009 STATE SENIOR ADULT RALLY

Thursday, August 27, 8 - 11:45 a.m.
Morrison Heights BC

- 8:00 Registration (Cost: \$1 at the door)
- 9:00 Rally with Al Staggs, Santa Fe, NM
(Humorous impersonator of 30 characters)
Choir: Fairview Baptist Church, Columbus
- 10:00 Break
- 10:45 Break-outs:
 - Fun Time with Al: Al Staggs
 - Leadership: Changing Faces of Senior Adult Ministry
Joe Sherrer, Professor, NOBTS
 - Equipping Seniors to be a Disciple
Ivan Parke, Professor at MC
 - Seventh-Inning Stretch
Daniel Hall, MS Baptist Foundation Executive Director
- 11:45 Adjourn

For more information contact the Discipleship and Family Ministry Department
at 601-292-3373, 1-800-748-1651, ext. 373, or E-mail gshows@mbcb.org.

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Colossians 4:2-5

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fulfilled! a missions event

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Jake Gulegge

July 17, 2009

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Garaywa, Clinton, MS



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July 16-18, 2009

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PROVIDING A REVIEW OF YEAR ONE (2008 CONTENT) AND A
PRESENTATION OF YEAR TWO (NEW, ADDITIONAL CONTENT)



Edwin Jenkins is the
pastor of First Baptist
Church in Athens, Ala.
He and his wife, Joan,
have three children.
Edwin earned a D.Min.
at Southwestern
Baptist Theological
Seminary.

During the time that Dr. Jenkins served as the director
of Leadership and Church Growth for the Alabama
Baptist Convention State Board of Missions, he and his
wife became aware of the significant need for ministers
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JULY 10-23, 2009

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-3204 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

"O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens ... When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?" Psalm 8:1, 3-4

A team of 15 from Oral BC and New Hope BC, Sumrall, will serve in Peru, July 13-20, discipling new believers and sharing the love of Jesus. Pray that God will direct their steps and place people in their paths who need to hear the gospel. Pray that their hearts will be open to the gospel.

Pray for a team of 10 from FBC, Mathiston, as they continue their strategic partnership with field personnel in northern Thailand, July 19-30. Pray that God will use the team to encourage the missionary and his family as well as the national believers.

Pray for: (1) GA Camp, Garaywa, 13th-18th; (2) Summer Mission Camp for Boys, Central Hills, 13th-17th; (3) Super Summer, Mississippi College, 13th-17th; (4) Young Musicians' Camp, Blue Mountain College, 13th-17th.

Pray for: (1) GA Camp, Garaywa, 20th-24th; (2) Summer Mission Camp for Boys, Central Hills, 20th-24th; (3) Young Musicians' Camp, Blue Mountain College, 20th-24th.

Eighteen volunteers will travel from FBC, Tupelo, July 16-27, serving God through VBS and ministering in local churches in the Cayman Islands. Ask God to change the lives of those the team encounters as well as to enrich the volunteer's walk with Him.

Longview Bible BC, Hernando, is sending seven volunteers to plant churches and evangelize in Uganda, July 20-August 3. Pray that the Lord of the harvest will use this team to plant seeds and encourage national believers.

A team of 20 from Pearl River and Rankin Baptist Associations will travel to Ukraine on an evangelism and medical mission trip, July 15-25. Pray that God will meet both the spiritual and physical needs of the Ukrainians.

Pray for our pastors to diligently maintain their personal time of seeking the Lord, even though they may feel overwhelmed with all of their duties as pastors. Pray that their ministry will simply be an overflow of their personal relationship with Him.

Pray for: (1) State Literacy Missions Conference, Jackson, 16th-18th; (2) Pastor & Wife Retreat, Lake Tlak, Chhata, Louisville, 16th-18th.

Pray that a sweeping movement of the Holy Spirit will bring conviction of and repentance for sin, and new life in Jesus Christ for our churches and for our country. Ask God for conviction in our own hearts for anything that is displeasing to Him.

Pray for: (1) Lad/Dad Weekend Camp, Central Hills; (2) Thirty-seven team members from North Oxford BC who will be traveling to Africa to minister through sports, medical clinics and construction projects, July 10-19. Pray that God will use these volunteers to shine light in the darkness through ministry.

Pray for: (1) Mississippi Baptist Youth Night, Jackson; (2) A staff member from Ridgecrest BC, Madison, traveling to Brazil, July 17-26, to do sports missions. Ask the Lord to use him to reach those who have never heard the gospel.

Pray for: (1) Super Summer Executive Staff Training; (2) Twelve volunteers from East Heights BC, Tupelo, serving in Helena, Montana, July 11-18, sharing Christ in a local community and participating in construction missions. Ask God to bless the hearts of local believers through the volunteer's sacrifice.

Pray for: (1) WMU, SBC, Family/Fest, Natchez, 18th-22nd; (2) A team of seven adults and nine students from FBC, Florence, traveling to Thailand, July 18-28, to conduct English camps, minister to street kids and provide comfort and support to HIV/AIDS patients living in hospice care. Ask God to use English to reach this primarily Buddhist culture.

2009 BIBLE DRILL CLINICS

to cover MAJOR UPDATES in Mississippi Bible Drills

LEADERSHIP TRAINING CLASSES

For leaders of Bible Buddies (Gr 1-3), Children's Bible Drill (Gr 4-6), and Student Bible Drill (Gr 7-12)

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
Thursday, 9/10	Diamondhead BC, Diamondhead	6:30-8:00 p.m.
Monday, 9/14	Garaywa, Clinton	6:30-8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, 9/15	FBC, Meridian	6:30-8:00 p.m.
Thursday, 9/17	FBC, Batesville	6:30-8:00 p.m.

BIBLE DRILL LEADERS:

Student Bible Drill: Curt Lyles on 9/10, 14 and 17

Student Bible Drill: Susan Lott on 9/15

The Student leaders' clinic will cover new types of Student Drills (Quotation Drill and Key Passage Drill); the new High School Selection Tournament to select a statewide High School Winner; and new helps on or coming to www.mbcab.org

Children's Bible Drill: Don Hicks on 9/10, 14, 15, 17

The children's section of the clinic will cover updates for Children's Bible Drill, new helps on or coming to www.mbcab.org

For more info: Call 601-292-3287 or E-mail dhicks@mbcab.org

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9-9-95

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Parents: Earl and Ramona
West Africa

9-12-99

MISS ANNA GRACE

Parents: Philip & Dawn
Central & Eastern Europe

9-20-93

MR. TYLER BRIDGES

Parents: Randy & Kim
South America

9-21-92

MR. DERRICK DeMARS

Parents: Guy & Cindy
West Africa

9-27-01

MISS MAEGAN K. PUTNAM

Parents: Tracy and Genie
Central and Eastern Europe

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PLEASE NOTE:

Church members may

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cards together;

cards do not

have to be sent

individually

to the WMU.

HOUSE TOPS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



1. **Branch Church, Morton:** July 12 - 16; commencement program, July 17.

2. **First Church, Taylorsville,** June 1 - 5; 121 enrolled, 58 workers, and three professions of faith. Shown are the participants.

3. **Roundaway Church, Doddsville:** June 8 - 12; average attendance, 54 children and 32 adults; 13 professions of faith; this was the church's first VBS in 23 years. Shown are some of the participants.

4. **West Marks Church, Marks:** June 1 - 5; average attendance, 90; six decisions for Christ. Shown are the participants.

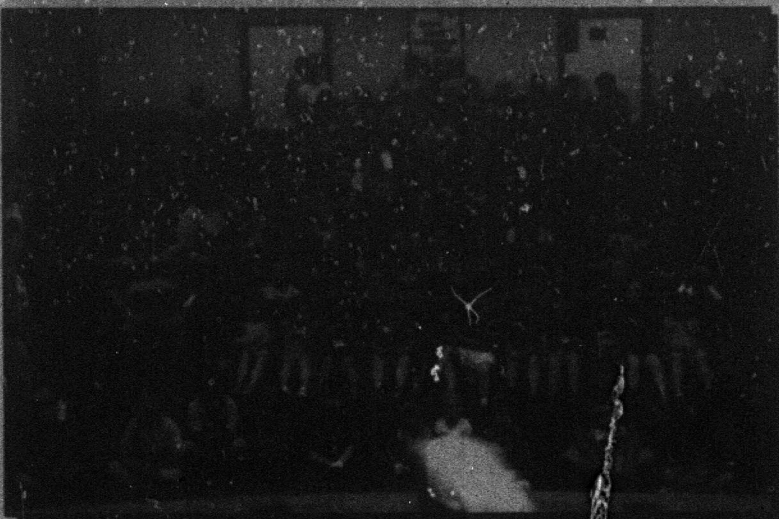
5. **First Church, Durant:** June 15 - 19; average attendance, 142. Shown are the participants.

6. **First Church McLaurin, Hattiesburg:** June 15 - 19; 117 enrolled, 102 average attendance, four professions of faith. Shown are the participants.

7. **Mt. Zion Church, Taylorsville,** recently held Vacation Bible School. Pictured are participants.

8. **Hickory Grove Church, Sumrall,** conducted Vacation Bible School on June 8-12, with an average attendance of 40. Pictured are participants.

9. **Bethel Church, Brandon,** recently held Vacation Bible School, with an average of 55 children and 30 staff and volunteers in daily attendance. Pictured are participants.



2. First Church, Taylorsville



3. Roundaway Church, Doddsville



4. West Marks Church, Marks



5. First Church, Durant



6. First Church McLaurin, Hattiesburg



7. Mt. Zion Church, Taylorsville



8. Hickory Grove Church, Sumrall



9. Bethel Church, Brandon

MS POSITIONS

BENTON-TIPPAAH

BAPTIST Association is now accepting resumes for Associational Missions Director through July 31, 2009. Please send resumes to Dr. Rex Yancey, AMD search committee chairman, 202 East Pine Street, Ripley, MS 38663.

MID-DELTA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION (Bolivar, Sunflower & Leflore counties) is seeking an Associational Missions Director. Send resumes to Pastor Wayne Kimbrough, AMD Search Committee, c/o Calvary Baptist Church, 4644 Billy Stone Rd, Greenwood MS 38930 or email wkimbroughcbc@yahoo.com by June 30, 2009.

CENTER RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH in the Carmichael Community of Clarke County, Miss., is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Please send resumes to Center Ridge Baptist Church, c/o Beverly Lindsey 8087 CR 630, Shubuta, MS 39360.

FBC, HORN LAKE, MISS., IS SEEKING resumes for a senior pastor, no later than August 31, 2009. Please mail to 3505 Goodman Road, Horn Lake, MS 38637.

NORTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, Vicksburg, Miss., is accepting resumes for a F/T Pastor, reply to pastor search committee, 28 Mingo Road, Vicksburg, MS 39183.

FAIRFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH, Moselle, Miss., is seeking part-time youth minister. Please send resume to Fairfield Baptist Church, 942 Moselle Seminary Road, Moselle, MS 39459. Phone is 601-752-6366, deadline for submitting is July 31, 2009.

TOPEKA BAPTIST CHURCH OF JAYESS, Miss., is searching for a part-time youth director. Send resume to Topeka Baptist Church, 807 China Grove Road, Jayess, MS 39641. Phone is 601-587-4195.

ROXIE BAPTIST CHURCH IS SEEKING a part-time (Sundays) music minister. Please send resume to: Lisa Smith, P. O. Box 418, Roxie, MS 39661 or contact lisajane@hotmail.com. Phone is 601-322-9011. Deadline for submitting is August 1, 2009.

HOLCOMB BAPTIST CHURCH, Holcomb, Miss., is seeking a part-time youth minister. Please send resume to Holcomb Baptist Church, attention youth search committee, 109 Highway 35 South, Holcomb, MS 38940.

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, Greenville, Miss., is seeking God's man for our Senior Pastor position. We are a contemporary styled Southern Baptist church in the heart of the Delta. Send resumes to Cecil Carder, 235 Hossum Ridge Road, Hollandale, MS 38748-3756.

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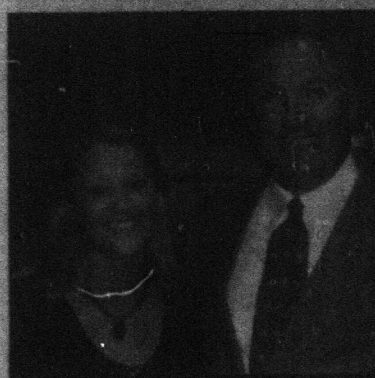
STATE CHANGES



1. Holmes



2. The Walters



3. Hart and Bilbo



4. The Files

1. First Church, Brookhaven, has called Jason Holmes as Associate Pastor/Students. Holmes, a Brookhaven native, comes from Broadmoor Church, Madison.
2. Virgil Walters has been called to pastor Macedonia Church, Meridian. He previously served as pastor of Central Church, Meridian. Pictured with Walters are his wife Candace and daughter Lydia.
3. Ronnye Hart (left) has been called as director of student ministries at Calvary Church, Lincoln Association. Trent Bilbo (right) is pastor.
4. Ray Files has been called as pastor of Lena Church, Lena. Pictured with Files are his wife Tonya and sons Jimmy and James.

The Baptist Record
P.O. Box 530
Jackson, MS 39205

BIBLE DRILL

1. Children of Calvary Church, Waynesboro, recently participated in Bible Drill competition. Pictured are participants.
2. Children and youth of New Providence Church, Copiah Association, recently participated in Bible Drill competition. Pictured are participants.



1. Calvary Church, Waynesboro



2. New Providence Church

REVIVALS AND HOMECOMINGS

1. Bethel Church, Water Valley: Revival, July 12-15; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Ken Boyette, speaker; Casey Gerber, music.
2. Goodwater Church, Forest: Homecoming, July 12; worship, 11 a.m., followed by lunch and cemetery association meeting; John Adcock, speaker.
3. Old Hebron Church, New Hebron: Revival, July 26-29; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by lunch and afternoon service; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Doyle Boyles, speaker; Bobby Maskew, music; Tommy Tanner, pastor.
4. Hopewell Church, Little Rock: Homecoming and revival, July 26-29; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by covered dish lunch and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Tommy Anderson, speaker; Jimmy McDill, pastor; Travis Watkins, minister of music.
5. Branch Church, Morton: Revival, July 26-29; Charles Cooper, speaker; Gary Dover, music.
6. Ramah Church, McCall Creek: Revival, July 12-15; Sun., 11 a.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Robert Andrews, speaker.
7. Corinth Church, Carthage/Singleton: Revival, July 19-23; Sun., 11 a.m.; 7 p.m. nightly; 11 a.m. Mon. and Thurs.; Shane McGivney, speaker; John Sharp, pastor; Barbara Henry, music.
8. Pleasant Valley Church, Mendenhall: 100th anniversary, July 18-19; Sat. games and fellowship, 1-5 p.m.; Sun., worship, 10 a.m.; lunch, noon; Michael Giles, interim pastor; Keith Mangum, music.
9. Friendship Church, McComb: Revival, July 12, 10:45 a.m., followed by lunch and 1 p.m.; Jim Futral, speaker; Graham Smith, music; LaVerne Summerlin, pastor.
10. Old Rice Road Church, Madison: Revival, July 10-12; Fri.-Sat., 6:30 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m.; Tony Byrd, speaker; Barbie Bassett, youth speaker with youth band Surviving Life.
11. Moak's Creek Church, Lincoln Association: Revival, July 12-15; Sun., worship followed by lunch and afternoon worship; services nightly, 7 p.m.; Richard Scoggins, speaker; Danny Creel, music.
12. Pleasant Hill Church, New Hebron: Revival, July 12-15; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by lunch, and 7 p.m. nightly with refreshments; Gene Douglas, speaker; Boyd Germany, music; Philip Douglas, pastor.
13. New Zion Church, Braxton: Revival, June 12-15; Sun. 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Speakers include Danny Adams (Sun.), Ted Bowlin (Mon.), David Jager (Tues.), and Rodney Anderson (Wed.). Bruce Jolly is pastor.
14. Concord Church, Pelahatchie: Revival, July 12-15; Sun. 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Sun. church wide pot luck lunch following worship service; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Gordon Sansing, speaker; Larry Beasley, music.
15. Sauls Valley Church, Monticello: Revival, July 12-15; Sun., 10 a.m. followed by lunch; Sun. afternoon, 1 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.
16. Hathorn Church, Columbia: Homecoming and Revival, July 12-17; Homecoming, Sun., 11 a.m., followed by dinner on the grounds and special music; Revival, Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; James Messer, speaker; Duke and Linda Barnes, music.
17. Robinson Church, Liberty: Revival, July 17-19. Dinner on the grounds following Sunday morning worship service on July 19; Kent Campbell, speaker.
18. Terry's Creek Church, Magnolia: Revival, July 19-20; Sun., 10 a.m., followed by covered dish luncheon at noon; Sun. afternoon service immediately after lunch; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Greg Johnston, speaker; Mike Britt, music; Todd Sumrall, pastor.
19. Dublin Church, Covington-Jefferson Davis Association: Revival, July 19-22; Charles Broom, speaker; Rob Schepers, music; L.C. Anthony, interim pastor.
20. First Church, Overt: Revival July 19-22; regular Sunday services starting at 10 a.m., with lunch following. Sun. afternoon service 1 p.m.; evening services 7 p.m.; Mike Aultman, speaker; Glenn Jones, pastor.
21. Hickory Grove, Sumrall: Revival, July 19-24; Sun., 10:30 a.m., followed by lunch and afternoon service; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Danny Henderson, speaker; Monty Bounds, music.
22. Second Church, Kosciusko: Revival, July 26-29; Sun., 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Wayne Hudson, evangelist; Hugh Ballard, music.
23. Slayden Church, Slayden: Revival, August 23-26; Bob Pittman, speaker; Billy Joe Kennedy, music; David Bishop, pastor.

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BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

Exalting the Son

Colossians 1:15-23

By Lori Clendinning

Wow! Death has NOT taken a holiday in recent weeks. The media has been reporting extensively of the demises of several well-known figures: Michael Jackson, Steve McNair, Farrah Fawcett, to name a few. Every aspect of these celebrities' lives seems to have been examined and the word "legacy" has been tossed about equally as often.

Regardless, there is only One whose time on this earth takes precedence over all others. If you're looking for someone with the ultimate legacy, study this week's Sunday School lesson. It focuses on the singular life and death that changed everything for all of us: Jesus Christ, God's Son, our eternal Creator, the Head of the church, my Savior and my Lord.

Paul had quite a task writing to the Colossians back in the late 50's or early 60's AD. He had to supply the proper view of Jesus Christ in order to provide a powerful antidote to the rampant heresy in Colosse and her sister cities Laodicea and Hieropolis. As a result, Paul's letter to the Colossians stands as the most Christ-centered book in the Bible.

Throughout the Lycus Valley, there were false teachers distorting Jesus' teachings. The Hellenistic and pagan cultures were colliding with the early church and Jewish religious rituals were also impeding the efforts of Jesus' followers. Fertility cults that embraced ecstasy and excessive enthusiasm, others who insisted that angels were to be worshiped, and philosophers who added



Clendinning

unnecessary and unhelpful elements to the Christian faith were just a few things that Paul had to wade through. Paul reminded these world-weary Colossians: Jesus is supreme, over everything and everyone. He is the visible image of the invisible God. He is eternal Creator, utmost over all creation. All of God's fullness dwells in Him. Because of these things alone, Jesus deserves first place in our lives. As His creation, we exist to glorify Him. Our ultimate fulfillment in life is found only by living lives that do so.

As Head of the church, Jesus is fully God. His death on the cross provided the way for us to be reconciled to God. The church is the visible body of Christ in this world. We must seek and follow Jesus' leadership in all that we undertake. Simply put, we ought to look like Jesus.

For many of us, summertime is often the time when families get together for

reunions. A favorite activity is when a newborn is presented and family members begin to determine which relative the infant most looks like: "Look! He has his father's (insert: ears, nose, chin, dimples)! Oh, but that hair is definitely from my (insert: great-granddaddy, grandmother, uncle, etc)." Before the child can talk, walk, or contribute in any significant way, he has been identified closely with his family.

That ought to be the way that all Christians are seen by the world. Before we can open our mouths to share the good news, others ought to see Jesus in us. Do we have that newborn/born again sweetness that compels others to come check us out? Granted, no one is going to pick us up and cuddle us like we do to the new babies in our lives, but there ought to be something radically fresh about us that makes people stop to see Jesus in us.

Jesus changes the lives of those who believe in Him. Through faith in Jesus we are reconciled to God. We must

never forget that Jesus saves us to live a different quality of life. We must remain faithful in our commitment to Him. As believers, we must live lives that show others that Jesus is holy, "faultless, and blameless. This is not about our being perfect, but rather, it's about living lives that point to how flawless He is, how uniquely qualified He is to handle everything this world dishes out.

People need a Savior. They need to be rescued and Jesus is the only Hope. He is supremely over everyone and everything. He is not weak or impotent, but He is the Strength that we all need. He is not anemic, absent, or powerless: He is Jesus, the Christ, God's Son, the One who created us and knows our every need. Jesus is (insert: truth, life, peace, whatever people need).

Now, Church, let's look alive! God's about to bring someone who doesn't know Jesus across our paths, so let's go introduce them to Him!

Lori Clendinning is a member of First Baptist Church, Brandon.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Be Responsible

Galatians 6:1-18

By Jim Burnett

Show me the car fax. These words are being uttered more and more by those shopping for used automobiles these days. The car fax provides the buyer with the mechanical history of a vehicle, allowing him to make an informed decision as to whether to purchase or pass on a particular vehicle.

Through our words, actions, and attitudes you and I are printing out a personal fax daily for our world to view. What does the printout read? Do people see the character of Christ exuding from you? Are they ready to buy into Christianity because of the continuity of your life?

Shoulder the Burden

(Galatians 6:1-5)

According to Paul, part and parcel of being a Christian means that we are genuinely concerned about the spirituality of others

and should be ready to intervene when needed. In other words, faith in Christ translates feeling for others. Do you know someone who is trapped in a habit, hurt, or hang up? Have you assured him or her of your willingness to help, to pray, to act on his or her behalf?

Unfortunately, many Christians subscribe to the hands off approach when it comes to assisting a fallen brother or sister. Why? Perhaps they think the situation is too messy or beyond their expertise. Or maybe they wonder who am I to help when I too struggle with my own imperfections. But neither of these excuses absolves us from our duty to shoulder one another's burdens. Through the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit, we should and can help one another stay free of the entrapment of sin.

Burnett

card, phone call, or email to your pastor, Sunday school teacher, missions director, etc. can do wonders for their morale. Never withhold encouragement; administer it in great doses to those who labor in leadership. Know that God will always use your positive affirmations toward others.

Knowing that our kind words and good deeds have affect, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9 NIV). You and I will wonder at times if our commitment to do the right thing, the God-thing is worth the sweat equity. Paul assures us, however, that seeds of goodness sown always produce a harvest

Do Good

(Galatians 6:6-10)

Contrary to contemporary thought, a "thank you" today still goes a long way. In verse six Paul encouraged the

Galatian believers to articulate appreciation to their spiritual leaders. Sometimes a

of goodness. There is never a crop failure. So Christian, sow. Do good to all people, but especially to your spiritual siblings.

Avoid Selfish Motives

(Galatians 6:11-15)

As Christians we must constantly evaluate why we do what we do. Is it for God's glory or our own? Doing God's work is a good work, but we must make sure it is done with a good motive. In another writing of Paul's he reminded us that one day every deed of our lives will be spiritually appraised via a holy fire. All that will remain is what we did for Jesus from a pure heart (1 Corinthians 12-15). Therefore, let us daily undergo a spiritual inventory, ridding our hearts of any hint of self-centeredness or self glory.

Seek Peace

(Galatians 6:16-18)

Today people seem to be so easily offended. Any word that could be interpreted negatively, is. A simple gesture toward someone can trigger rage on the highway, in the post office, in the home, and even in the church, causing serious harm and sometimes even death.

Paul encouraged the Galatian believers to be avid peace makers in their communities and in their churches. Obviously these believers lived in a time much like ours where people were hypersensitive and emotionally unstable. The good news, however, is that Christ came to earth to bring peace to man's heart. And when the peace of God rules your life, it will also rule your relationships.

Do you see yourself as a peacemaker? According to Paul all Christians are to be ministers of reconciliation: "All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation" (2 Cor. 5:18-19 NIV). We not only have the ministry of reconciliation but we have the message of reconciliation. Therefore, in Christ, you are a relationship repairman.

Burnett is pastor of Willow Pointe Church, Hattiesburg.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted.



Photograph attachments are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if

submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items are generally not publishable. Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples. All news items are subject to editing, and all

photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbc.org.

JUST FOR THE RECORD



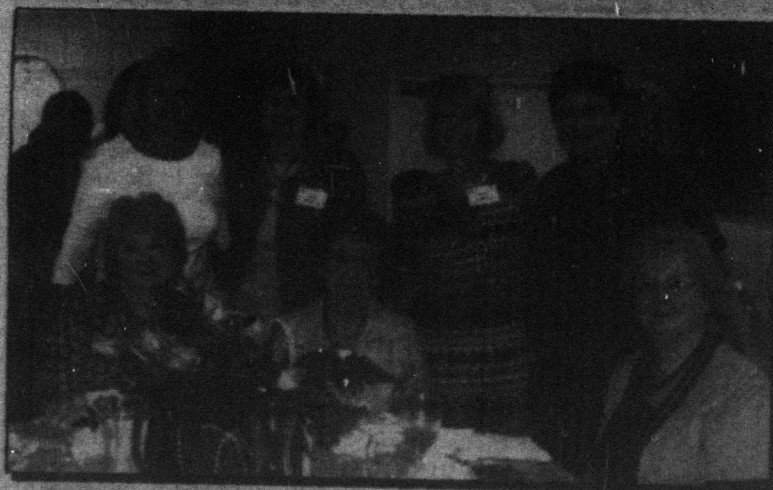
1. Mt. Zion Church Bible drillers

1. Mt. Zion Church, Columbus, recognizes its Bible drillers. Shown, top, are Brooke Edmondson and Bailey Beaird; middle, AnnaKate O'Bryant, Tyler Beaird, and Zachary Oswalt; and bottom, Ashley Chain and Savannah Blackwell.

2. Members of the Women's Ministry Team at First Church, Grenada, have compiled 700 recipes in a cookbook entitled, *Endless Blessings*. Proceeds will help fund missions ministries at the church. For more information, contact the church at 450 Faith



2. Women's Ministry Team of First Church, Grenada



3. East Moss Point Church



4. Harmony Church Bible drillers

Drive, Grenada, MS 38901. Telephone: (662) 226-3661.

3. The WMJ of East Moss Point Church, Moss Point, recently hosted a Ladies' Spring Extravaganza with AFR talk host Kandi Anderson as guest speaker. Shown are some of the participants; Anderson, third from left.

4. Harmony Church, Louisville, recognizes its Bible drillers. Shown are the participants.

5. Shady Grove Church, Heidelberg, recently held a note burning at their church. Shown are pastor Larry Cockerham, Bill Smith, Doval Goldman, and David Ulmer.

6. Sunrise Church, Carthage, recently recognized their GAs and their leaders at a special service. Shown are the participants.

7. Slayden Church, Lamar, recognized recipients of the Zack Ross Memorial Scholarship: Robbie Lundine, Lauren Bishop, Traci Rodgers, Megan Plowman, David Briethaupt, and Hannah Johns. Ross's sister Heather Straham presented the scholarship May 31.

8. Fellowship Church, Benton-Tippah Association, held a note burning for their Family Life Center May 10. Shown are David Hodges, Roger Bryant, Arnold Bullock, Jerry Reno, pastor Bill Baker, Danny Lawson, and Kenneth Carter.

9. Vaiden Church, Vaiden, is hosting Karen Peck and New River in concert July 19, 6 p.m. A love offering will be received.

10. Mt. Olivet Church, Forest, is hosting Gordon Mote in concert July 12, 6 p.m.; doors open 4:30 p.m.; a love offering will be taken.

11. Westview Church, Jackson, will host a reception on July 12 at 3 p.m. for church organist Geraldine Pullen Green, who is retiring after 71 years of ministry at the piano and organ in churches all across Mississippi.

12. First Church, Brandon, will host Kid Xtreme, a free sports and arts camp, from 6-8:45 p.m. on July 12-15. The camp is open to children in grades one through five (completed). Register online at www.fbcbrandon.com. For more information, call (601) 825-6766.



5. Shady Grove Church note burning



6. Sunrise Church GAs



7. Slayden Church scholarship recipients



8. Fellowship Church note burning